

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY EUR/EE:TEDEAL:LM

APPROVED BY P - MR. SISCO

EUR - MR. ARMITAGE

S/S - MR. MOFFAT

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R 121912Z MAY 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, EFIN, CZ, US

SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR SPACIL'S FAREWELL CALL ON UNDER
SECRETARY

1. CZECHOSLOVAK AMBASSADOR SPACIL PAID FAREWELL CALL ON
UNDER SECRETARY SISCO ON MAY 8.

2. UNDER SECRETARY SAID HE APPRECIATED OPPORTUNITY OF
AMBASSADOR'S VISIT TO REACQUAINT HIMSELF WITH RECENT
DEVELOPMENTS IN US/CZECHOSLOVAK RELATIONS. HE POINTED
OUT THAT AMBASSADOR COULD TAKE SOME PERSONAL SATISFACTION
WITH WAY RELATIONS HAD DEVELOPED OVER PAST THREE YEARS.
CLEARLY, PASSAGE OF TRADE ACT HAD CAUSED A TEMPORARY
SETBACK WHICH HAD HAD IMPACT ON OPENING OF THE CONSULATE
GENERAL IN BRATISLAVA AND THE RATIFICATION OF CONSULAR
CONVENTION. NONETHELESS, OVERALL TREND IN RELATIONS
HAS BEEN GENERALLY UPWARD.

3. SPACIL SAID HE FULLY SHARED UNDER SECRETARY'S VIEWS.
HE NOTED THAT, SHORTLY AFTER HIS ARRIVAL IN U.S. THERE
WAS MEETING WITH SECRETARY ROGERS AT WHICH PRINCIPAL
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BILATERAL ISSUES WERE REGISTERED. THERE HAD BEEN SOME

ACHIEVEMENTS, EVEN THOUGH CZECHOSLOVAKS WERE DISAPPOINTED
THAT TRADE BILL HAD PREVENTED CONCLUSION OF CLAIMS
AGREEMENT. UNDER SECRETARY POINTED OUT THAT WE WERE
CONTINUING TO WORK WITH CONGRESS IN AN EFFORT TO RESOLVE
THIS MATTER.

4. SPACIL ADDED THAT, ASIDE FROM CLAIMS QUESTION,
CZECHOSLOVAKS WERE GENERALLY PLEASED WITH OVERALL
DEVELOPMENT OF EAST-WEST RELATIONS AND BELIEVE FAVORABLE
TREND WILL CONTINUE.

5. SPACIL REAFFIRMED THAT CZECHOSLOVAKS WERE INTERESTED
IN FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF RELATIONS. DESPITE OUR RECENT
DIFFICULTIES WITH CLAIMS QUESTION, THE PROSPECTS DID NOT
SEEM TOO BAD.

6. UNDER SECRETARY SAID THAT AMBASSADOR COULD RETURN
TO PRAGUE WITH KNOWLEDGE THAT HE WAS WELL REGARDED IN
WASHINGTON BOTH PROFESSIONALLY AND PERSONALLY. INGERSOLL

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